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THE CARTER FAMILY TREE. New Edition. Prepared by Mrs. M. C. Oliver, P. O., Shirley, Va. 1897.

The, almost, innumerable descendants of the Carter family and all who are interested in Virginia genealogy are under obligations to Mrs. Marion Carter Oliver, of Shirley, for the new edition of the "Carter Tree," which she has prepared. This admirable family chart was first compiled by Mrs. Oliver's father, the late Captain R. R. Carter, of Shirley; but experience has shown, that as valuable and useful as the first chart was, it had deficiencies, especially in the lack of completeness, which Mrs. Oliver determined to supply. The chart just issued is a very large one, four feet six inches square, and is the result of years of careful and laborious investigation. Not only have the various lines given in the first edition been carefully re-used, but three thousand new names have been added. No one who examines the chart will fail to have an appreciation of the labor it has required; but only those who have had some experience in preparing such things can fully understand the great amount of time, and the patient and careful labor which has been bestowed upon this work. It is a monument of the author's loving regard for her name and kin, and is bound to be of great interest to all who trace descent from the honored name of Carter.

Charts are sometimes unsatisfactory modes of presenting family history, because they have no place for proofs of the statements made. No one, however, need have such a fear in regard to the "Carter Tree." We have examined carefully, and checked by the authorities, the chief lines of descent (the chart is so extensive that more could not be done) and find in every instance that the statements made are correct. Where record evidence could be obtained, Mrs. Oliver has evidently used it, and where there was none it is plain that information has been obtained from the sources most likely to furnish it correctly.

It was our intention to give a list of some of the hundreds of names which appear on the chart, but as it is so extensive and there can be no principle of selection, we abandon the idea. It is sufficient to say that there is hardly a family of any length of residence in Virginia whose name will not be found in this great catalogue of the descendants of John Carter, the immigrant. In very many instances, indeed in the majority of cases, the accounts of descent given here are not elsewhere in print. In fact the "tree" may be truly termed an extensive and accurate compendium of Virginia families. Too much cannot be said for the skill and care with which Mrs. Oliver has performed her work. The chart is handsomely lithographed on strong paper and folded in a cover, or on heavier, to be mounted or framed.

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Edward W. James, Editor.

The leading selections in these two parts of No. 2 of the Antiquary